The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Men are most apt to believe what they least understand.—Pliny.

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Former Senator Butler Blamed For New Bedford Mill Strike

New Bedford, Mass., Aug. 18.—Former United States Senator Butler is one of four mill officials who is responsible for the strike of 28,000 workers against a 10 per cent wage cut, declares Walker H. Langshaw, president of Dartmouth mills. These mills are the only ones in operation in this city, President Langshaw having refused to reduce wages.

A 10 per cent wage cut, said Mr. Langshaw, would amount to less than a cent per yard and what is taken from the workers would probably be absorbed by middlemen. They are not at the trouble, he said, is overproduction.

"All this increased production took place," he declared, "when it was clearly apparent that there was a reduced demand for cotton fabrics because of the use of silk and the change in fashions. If the increase in production had not taken place, and the demand had equalled production, market conditions would not have been offered as an argument for wage reductions.

"The wages of skilled labor in the cotton industry, as compared with wages received in other lines of work are not high, considering the qualifications required. Because of this fact and because the operatives are not to blame for over-production I was opposed to the reduction in wages."

"The textile problem," said Mr. Langshaw, "can be solved by junking old plants, produce goods only that meet the demand and insist that merchandise shall not be sold below labor cost."

The strikers are not blamed by the mill manager. "The responsibility for the trouble," he added, "rests on those who are governed by the spirit of greed and intolerance and who will give little or no consideration to the effect of their arbitrary attitude."

OHIO COMPENSATION LAW MAKES INSURANCE RECORD

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 18.—The Ohio workmen's compensation system is the largest casualty insurance business in the world, the report of State Treasurer Buckley reveals.

The state compensation act outlaws ambulance chasers and private insurance companies. No one can profiteer on the injury and death of a wage worker.

The state treasurer is custodian of the workmen's compensation fund, which totaled $52,877,456.74 on December 31 last. The fund is administered by the Ohio Industrial Commission, composed of three members.

Employers are compelled to insure in the state fund, unless they elect to carry their own insurance. In that event they must deposit with state officials sufficient Ohio state, county or municipal bonds to guarantee compensation benefits to employes. These employers are under the same rules as if they were insured in the state fund.

William Green, president A. F. of L., sponsored this state-monopoly insurance law when he was a member of the Ohio Senate. The act has been indorsed by the A. F. of L. as a model insurance system. The Ohio Manufacturers' Association are joined with the Ohio Federation of Labor to protect the act from assaults by private insurance companies and ambulance chasers.

KELLOGG ATTACKED ON MEXICAN POLICY

Williamstown, Mass., Aug. 18.—The State Department's Mexican policy was attacked by Professor David Lynn Thomas of the University of Arkansas at the Institute of Politics.

The ex-Senator said Secretary of State Kellogg risked war with Mexico in order to protect oil men against whom criminal actions had been brought in the United States.

"The gods on Olympus must laugh," he said, "every time they think how our State Department is defending these men whom the Department of Justice moved heaven and earth to put behind prison bars."

Professor Charles W. Hackett of the University of Texas also criticized Secretary Kellogg. He said Ambassador Morrow's plan of appealing to the Mexican courts should be applied, rather than first attempt diplomatic pressure.

NICARAGUAN POLICY CALLED INEVITABLE

Charlottesville, Va., Aug. 18.—This country's Nicaraguan policy is unavoidable because it is linked up with our present expansion policy, declared Dr. Fred Cox of Northwestern University before the Institute of Public Affairs.

"As long as we pursue what we may call a militaristic policy," said Dr. Cox, "and as long as we consider the defense of the Panama Canal and the defense of our rights in general as a Nicaraguan canal, I do not look for the withdrawal of the marines from Nicaragua."

BARBERS ORGANIZE

Indianapolis, Aug. 18.—The Journeymen Barbers' International Union has issued charters to these craftsmen in Cisco, Texas, and Halifax, Nova Scotia.

LAUNDRY DRIVERS UNITE

Denver, Aug. 18.—Laundry drivers in this city organized. They are chartered by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

STAR CHAMBER PLAN IS REVIVED IN IOWA

Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 18.—The State Board of Control is in a legal tangle because of its attempt to compel John C. Lewis, president of the Iowa Federation of Labor, to testify before it in a star chamber session.

The trade unionist charged the board with violating the anti-prison contract law when it contracted with the Dearborn Company of Chicago for the labor of 300 Iowa convicts.

The board ordered Lewis to appear before that august body. He was denied an attorney, could not employ a stenographer and was told the hearings would be closed to the public. The unionist refused to appear and the board called on Judge Herman F. Zeuch to declare him in contempt.

Attorneys for Lewis have wound the board in a legal tangle by these questions:

"What crime, if any, does one who refuses to obey a subpoena of the state board of control commit?

"Contempt of court? Or just contempt of the board?

"If there is a crime which fits the act, should the accused be found innocent or guilty by a judge in the regular courts of criminal proceedings, or can he demand a jury trial?"

The unionist's attorneys agree that the board may conduct hearings in any manner they elect when matters of finance and management of institutions under their care are questioned or their employes are accused, but they have no authority to conduct such inquisitorial hearings when a citizen questions the legality of their acts.

ITALIAN EMPLOYERS TOLD WHOM TO HIRE

Turin, Italy, Aug. 18.—Employers in this vicinity object to Mussolini's rule that they must apply to the Fascisti labor bureaus when seeking workers.

Mussolini orders that members of the Fascist party and Fascist unions be given preference in employment. This rule is intended to force workers into the Fascist unions.

When Communists were in control, they had the same rule in that Bolshevist now enforces. The employers upheld the Fascist dictator in the hope that this rule would be abolished, but they find no difference between the two dictators.

The Fascist unions are officered by government appointees. Wages are set by law and it is a criminal offense for workers to strike.

CO-OPS HAVE REVERSES BUT HOLD THEIR GROUND

Washington, Aug. 18.—The co-operative movement in this country appears to be prospering "in moderate degree," according to a study by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Progress of the north central and northeastern societies continues, it is stated, and slow recovery from the 1920-1922 reverses is noted on the Pacific Coast. The miners' societies of Illinois, Ohio and Pennsylvania, however, are under heavy disadvantage, due to the long period of unemployment and consequent poverty of some of their members.

CHEMISTRY WILL WIN NEXT WAR; POISON GAS CAN'T BE OUTLAWED

Chicago, Aug. 18.—The country that leads in advanced chemistry will win the next war, Sir James C. Irvine of St. Andrew's University, Scotland, told the American Chemical Society. He ridiculed the value of peace treaties and paper promises to outlaw gas warfare.

"Gas poisoning has been used once and will be used again," he said. "The futility of paper agreements has been clearly demonstrated and so long as the chemical factory remains it can be utilized for a factory of poisonous gases. While there is a general opinion against this method of warfare, we are swept along by a feeling against which it is impossible to struggle.

"The whole machinery of war may be scrapped. Warships may be sunk, armies disbanded and fortresses demolished, but the chemical factory must remain, and so long as it exists it is a potential war factory.

"An organic works designed for large scale preparation of compounds such as dyestuffs requires very little alteration in plant or personnel to be converted in a few hours into a place from which will pour materials more deadly by far than those used in the late war."

The Scotch chemist considered it quite possible that the war of the future may be declared, waged and won in a few days.

"The alterations necessary to convert passenger carrying airplanes into bombing machines are not serious," he said. "There is no need for heavy guns or the paraphernalia of land war, for the chemical factory can provide the poison shell fillings which the airplane can drop on its terrific objectives—and I leave to your imagination what those objectives are likely to be."

Sir James refuted the popular belief that the Germans had "exercised unusual scientific foresight and capacity when she first deluged the allied lines with waves of chlorine gas.

"Actually," he said, "chlorine was discovered by the Swedes; methods of preparing it electrolytically were discovered by the British; its application as a bleaching agent was first rendered possible by the French; but it was first used for war purposes by the Germans."

SORROW IN MOSCOW

British organized coal miners have dropped a ton of concrete on the Communists and there is sorrow in Moscow.

The miners, in their delegate conference, denounced the "reds" and reaffirmed their faith in trade unionism by a 620-to-8 vote. Each vote represents 1,000 members of the union.

This vote is significant because the miners have been defeated in their long strike. Wages are reduced, hours lengthened and the industry is in a chaotic condition.

The Communists considered the situation ideal for their purpose and they invaded the coal fields with their poison gas and their foam logic. The "reds'" world-wide system was used—tears for "deluded" workers who place their faith in trade unionism and abuse for officials who have been elected by these trade unionists.

The system was not successful. The miners refused to be swayed by hysterical oratory and character abuse.

They have suffered, but they will not be hoodwinked by exhorters who would turn their unions into revolutionary kindergartens.

The Communists believed England is a fertile field for their "boring" tactics because of the industrial depression, but they have been kicked in the face by hard-headed trade unionists who have an awkward habit of doing their own thinking.

LABOR PAYS FOR INERTIA

The Colorado Federation of Labor has withdrawn its petition for a workmen's compensation referendum because it has been found that thousands of signatures were spurious.

Organized labor initiated the referendum, but failed to volunteer in sufficient numbers to secure signatures. Officers of the Federation were compelled to employ solicitors, who were paid on the basis of signatures secured.

More than 10,000 names and addresses were taken from the telephone book by solicitors who, it is discovered, were secretly working with foes of the proposed legislation.

The Colorado Labor Bulletin says trade unionists have again learned the bitter lesson that they must depend upon themselves. Their failure to act will permit the killing and maiming of workers for another two years.

Protests are futile when not backed by action. Opponents of social progress will publicly sympathize with workers while they secretly smile at their inertia.

These opponents do not fear resolutions passed by men who depend upon others to remove wrong.

Self-help alone breeds respect. Colorado workers will have two years to realize the effects of a contrary policy.

FALSE DEMAND CREATED FOR POWER TRUST DOPE

Washington, Aug. 18.—If a school board does not ask public utilities in distributing their propaganda to children, a demand for this literature should be manufactured by the utilities.

This policy is favored by the Grand Rapids Gas Light Company, according to a letter to the public director of the Michigan utilities press bureau from A. D. Hosmer, secretary of the Grand Rapids concern.

The letter was placed in evidence at the Federal Trade Commission's probe.

"What sort of response are you receiving from the city schools of Grand Rapids?" Schroeder ask the publicity director.

"It occurs to us if this response is not what it should be, that we ought to get busy here ourselves and see that some requests for copies (of utilities' propaganda) are forthcoming. We have had considerable success in previous years in placing educational matter of this kind, even though we know that the school authorities are, as a rule, very conservative about permitting anything to be used for advertising or propaganda to be distributed in the classes. This pamphlet, however, being so well gotten up and so educational, should be acceptable to them."

FACTORY COSTS CUT BY SIMPLIFIED PLAN

Washington, Aug. 18.—The United States Bureau of Standards estimates that during the last few years employers have saved $300,000,000 annually through the application of simplified practices.

The Division of Simplified Practice of the Department of Commerce has acted in these cases as a centralizing agency to bring various employing interests together and to support their collective efforts toward eliminating the wastes inherent in "overdiversification" of lines.

The saving in metal lath manufacture alone through eliminating dealers' stocks of unnecessary assortments an investment of $2,000,000, which they now do not have to carry.

ATTACKS BARBERS' LAW

Salem, Ore., Aug. 18.—The Oregon Barber School, of Portland, asks the State Supreme Court to outlaw the Oregon barber law which has been upheld by the Multnomah county court.

The proprietor of the school alleges that the educational requirements of the act are oppressive and that fewer students are patronizing his institution.

This makes it impossible for the school to grind out its half-trained barbers, and the act is therefore, he declares, unconstitutional and un-American, saith the college professor.

"REDS" HAVE MANY MONEY-GETTERS

Chicago, Aug. 18.—The executive board of the Chicago Federation of Labor calls attention to six money-getting schemes used by Communists to raise money among organized labor.

To the uninitiated the appeals of the legitimate trade union movement, the "reds" place these words in big type on their literature: "Defense."

Defense Council, National Office, Federation of Labor Building, 166 West Lincoln Street, Chicago."

"Defense" is immediately under this in faint typewriting is printed: "New address, 19 South Lincoln Street."

"Only one person in 10,000 would look close enough to see the fraud," says the executive board. "Their purpose, of course, is to cover their own identity. The words 'Labor Defense Council' have a strong appeal to the unwary and get the money. 'National Office' and 'Federation of Labor Building' hook the game up with the labor movement nationally and with the Chicago Federation of Labor locally, and by such deception they induce the legitimate trade unions to finance their numerous schemes.

"The Communists operate six different schemes as those discerned in the unions. A local that resists the Communists' dictatorship is singled out for an attack through one or all of their six schemes.

"The main instrument is the so-called Daily Worker' which is used as the character assassin of any individual or group who oppose the nefarious practices of the Communists.

"The next is 'Trade Union Educational League.' This is the snare for younger members of our unions. The high sounding title, conveying the impression of trade union education, is deceptive. Its proper title should be 'The Communist Kindergarten,' where primer lessons on Communism are taught.

"Then we have the 'Amalgamation' which, especially created as an every-once-in-a-while weekly publication whose announced mission is to stir up trouble in printing trades local unions, but is used anywhere, any time, to fire a broadside against the policy of a local union to preach the doctrine of the 'third internationale.'

"The next step to the above is the 'Progressive Building Trades,' another once-in-a-while weekly which appears to be a Daily Worker' which is used to jimmy their way in building trades locals.

"The next scheme is the launching of the 'American Negro Labor Congress.' The twin baby to the 'negro congress' is the 'Irish Famine.'

"The executive board of the Chicago Federation of Labor exposes the Communists' tactics because they are sailing under false colors. They dare not openly use their own name as Communists and the American agents of the 'third internationale'."

GREEN URGES WORKERS TO SUPPORT SHIPSTEAD

Washington, Aug. 18.—In a spirited presentation of Senator Shipstead's 100 per cent labor record, President Green calls on A. F. of L. national and international affiliates "to communicate with their local unions in Minnesota and urge them to vigorously enter the campaign in the interest of Senator Shipstead's re-election."

"It would be most helpful," said President Green, "if each issue of the official trade union journals before the election in November would contain articles in reference to Senator Shipstead's record as a friend of labor and to labor. We owe it to ourselves and our movement that we use every effort to bring about the desired result."

President Green calls especial attention to Senator Shipstead's activity for injunction relief.

FARMERS ARE TENANTS

Williamstown, Mass., Aug. 18.—More than 50 per cent of Iowa farmers are tenants, Professor Charles E. Payne of Grinnell College, Iowa, told conferees to the Institute of Politics.

Last year, he said, every college in Iowa decreased in attendance and there were unable to meet demands for scholarship assistance and for positions to enable students to work their way.

HAND WORKERS CAN'T COMPETE WITH MACHINE ON HUGE FARMS

New York, Aug. 18.—Cheap production in agriculture is shown in cost estimates made public by the Campbell Farming Corporation, which operates 95,000 acres in Montana.

It is stated that labor costs of $6 a day for engine operators are less than they were 30 years ago when the standard wage was $26 a month and board.

Large power units and hitches can plow an acre of land at a labor cost of 27 cents, seed it for about 7 cents an acre labor cost, double-disk it for 10 cents an acre and harvest and thresh it for a labor cost of 40 cents an acre.

No agricultural laborer can compete with this low machine-labor cost. Neither can small farm owners compete with gigantic corporations that are equipped with machinery that can only operate on bonanza farms.

MISLEADING TERMS

The Seamen's Journal

The forces that make civilization possible depend upon organization, yet one of organized labor's problems today is the determination of some employers to prevent their employes from uniting. They dare not publicly disclose their purpose, but mask their efforts under such misleading terms as "open" shop and "American" plan.

What they aim at is a workshop open only to the unorganized under a plan which is contrary to American institutions.

These self-constituted overlords believe in organization for themselves, but apply every method their cunning attorneys can devise to prevent organization among their employes. The non-union conditions which they establish create inequality of rights, establish the employer as a master and converts wage earners into helpless servants. This un-American policy gives them privileges that are contrary to justice and human liberty.

It is a non-union policy which the American trade union movement intends to destroy as did our nation destroy the belief that men had a legal right to buy and sell human beings.

NOISY REDS SCORNED BY BRITISH MINERS

London, England, Aug. 18.—By a vote of 77 to 1 the Miners' Federation of Great Britain condemned Communists and pledge every aid to carry out the trade union policy.

The delegates took this position when called upon to indorse an anti-Communist declaration by their executives when dissension in the Scottish coal field was officially called to their attention.

The executives declared their "strong condemnation of the Communists and the minority movement and the tactics which have been adopted in the various coalfields, and particularly in Scotland, and pledged themselves "to render all possible help to the bona fide Scottish Miners' Federation and all other districts which are carrying out the principles of the Miners' Federation, the British Trades Union Congress and the British Labor party."

The vote in support of this declaration was 620 for and 8 against. Each vote represented 1,000 members.

The conference rejected the one-big-union scheme as the united fields in place of the present federation. That vote was 465 to 163.

The Communist declaration is in line with similar resolutions by British trade unionists who have repudiated, time and again, the tiny minority who are only interested in revolution, while professing an interest in the wage workers.

WYOMING CITY AIDS VICTIMIZED WORKERS

Sheridan, Wyo., Aug. 18.—Mayor Loucks and the city council have notified the American La France Corporation of Elmira, N. Y., that this city supports union machinists who have been locked out by the eastern manufacturer of fire-fighting apparatus.

"This council," said Mayor Loucks and his associates, "is firmly convinced that the trade union movement is the American way, and in the habit of getting back of local groups of men who are in the wrong. We are, therefore, wholly in sympathy with the local committee's request that insofar as possible the city of Sheridan assist them in correcting the wrong which they represent as existing."

MINERS STAND FIRM BUT NEED EVERY AID

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 18.—"The miners are as united as ever, despite joint efforts of operators and scabs from within," said Frank Hefferly, international representative of the United Mine Workers of America.

"There never was a time when these miners were in greater need of financial and moral assistance," added Hefferly. He called attention to the "save-the-union" movement that is backed by Communists in the coal fields.

EDITORS ARE PROGRESSIVE

Sedgefield, N. C., Aug. 18.—A workman's compensation act for this state was favored by the North Carolina Press Association at its summer meeting. The association said he was offered $1,000 for his campaign. Fleming denied he made these statements but admitted he was paid $500 a month by the utility corporations to "check" members of the State legislature on their attitude for the bill.

"This revocable permit," Judge Williams said, "amounts to nothing more than a perpetual monopoly. If the people of Muskogee want to get rid of a public utility under it they are not permitted to hold an election to that effect, but they must ask the permission of three men sitting as a board in Oklahoma City."

SICKNESS COSTLY TO AMERICAN PEOPLE

New York, Aug. 18.—The annual capital loss to the people of this country through sickness, exclusive of nonmeasurable losses due to loss of future wages and reduced earnings caused by slight illness is $31.08 per person or $3,468 per family, according to Homer Folks, vice chairman of the public health council of this State.

Mr. Folks estimates that the total earning power of the United States is diminished by some $15,000,000,000; 94 per cent of the cost falls on the sick or their families and the remaining 6 per cent is distributed as a community expense.

HOOVER DISCUSSES ISSUES IN ACCEPTING NOMINATION

Palo Alto, Calif., Aug. 18.—In accepting the Republican nomination for President, Herbert Hoover said the trade unions "properly have sought—by additions to wages—in the result of improvements and savings which they have helped to make." We have gone far beyond the conception of "a full dinner pail," he said. "We demand larger comfort and greater participation in life and leisure."

On the misuse of the injunction Mr. Hoover would limit, but not remove, this evil. "We stand also pledged to the curtailment of excessive use of the injunction in labor disputes," he said. He called attention to his party's support of indorsement of "the principle of collective bargaining and freedom in labor negotiations."

"Unemployment, in the sense of distress, is widely disappearing," he said.

The nominee declared against mass production on the farm. "The farm is more than a business; it is a state of living," he said. "We do not wish it converted into a mass production machine." Federal aid for farmers' cooperative societies and pools to protect the farmer from overproduction and depressing prices was favored.

Opposition to repeal of the eighteenth amendment was registered by Mr. Hoover, who conceded the right of any one, however, to urge this change. He declared that any "modification of the enforcement laws which would permit the sale which the Constitution forbids is nullification. Change in the Constitution can and must be brought about only by the straightforward methods provided in the Constitution itself."

A call was made for "a larger visioned development of our water resources." A large program of public development which involves three times the cost of the Panama Canal was favored. "These works, which will provide jobs for an army of men, should, so far as practicable, be adjusted to take up the slack of unemployment elsewhere," said Mr. Hoover.

On the question of religious freedom, the nominee said:

"In this land dedicated to tolerance, we still find outbreaks of intolerance. I come of Quaker stock. My ancestors were persecuted for their beliefs. Here they sought and found religious freedom. By blood and conviction I stand for religious tolerance both in act and in spirit. The glory of our American ideals is the right of every man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience."

LABOR GUARDS WOMEN; TEXTILE BARON WEEPS

New Bedford, Mass., Aug. 18.—John Sullivan, president of the Manufacturers' Association, assured the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation that the textile unions are not sincere when they offer to co-operate with management.

Mr. Sullivan cited labor's opposition to the manufacturers' proposal that the working week of women be lengthened.

"This proves," said Mr. Sullivan, "that all these remarks about labor and industry getting together would simply mean more confusion."

The strikers are opposing a 10 per cent wage reduction. More than 28,000 workers have been out nearly five months.

U. S. COURT UPSETS CRAFTY UTILITY LAW

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 18.—The revocable permit law, passed by the State Legislature, was branded the "most infamous legislation ever forced upon a long-suffering people," by Federal Judge R. L. Williams.

If a utility surrenders its charter or franchise, under the permit law it may receive an indeterminate permit to operate This permit, granted by the corporation commission, can only be revoked by the State Legislature.

While hearing a petition of the Oklahoma Natural Gas Company, Judge Williams declared the measure unconstitutional.

The hearings exposed methods employed by the corporations to secure the passage of the act. Congressman Jed Johnson, who was a member of the State Legislature when the act was passed, and who opposed the scheme, testified that W. O. Fleming, utilities lobbyist, said to him: "We are going to take care of our friends; we are going to finance their campaigns." Johnson said he was offered $1,000 for his campaign. Fleming denied he made these statements but admitted he was paid $500 a month by the utility corporations to "check" members of the State legislature on their attitude for the bill.

"This revocable permit," Judge Williams said, "amounts to nothing more than a perpetual monopoly. If the people of Muskogee want to get rid of a public utility under it they are not permitted to hold an election to that effect, but they must ask the permission of three men sitting as a board in Oklahoma City."

RAILROAD JOY RIDES GIVEN NO PUBLICITY

Washington, Aug. 18.—The private car abuse, exposed by Commissioner Frank M. McManamy of the Interstate Commerce Commission, has been given no publicity by "efficiency" expounders.

The commissioner shows that real abuses exist and that too many joy rides are taken by officials and their friends at the expense of the public. The probe covered the years 1923 to 1925. During this period private cars of railroad officials traveled free 9,930,344 miles over the lines of other roads and officials traveled 42,176,527 miles on their own lines.

Palm Beach, Newport, Miami, Hot Springs, French Lick and Lexington, Ky., are especially popular with railroad officials.

The private car abuse reached its limit in the case of the Louisiana & Pacific railroad. This is a saw mill line of 91 miles and is owned by the Long-Bell Lumber Company. The private cars of this saw mill road traveled 167 miles on the home lines and 61,046 miles on other lines.

Commissioner McManamy recommends that regular tariff rates be charged for the transportation of all private cars and that full charges also be made for meals and other accommodations in such cars.

SPRAY PAINT MACHINE HARMFUL TO WORKERS

Washington, Aug. 18.—If spray painters use masks they may be partially protected from poisonous vapors, according to the United States Public Health Service.

This statement upholds organized painters who oppose the spray machine for health reasons. Cheap-wage and cheap-work employers insist that the spray machine is efficacious.

The masks will not remove all danger, says the Health Bureau, but will remove a large proportion of the substances and vapors, if properly equipped.

In the case of silica-dust sprays, the machine restrained but 24 per cent or more of the dust from the air passed through them; most of them were 50 per cent efficient.

WIRE WORKERS GAIN

Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 18.—Electrical Workers' Union No. 175 signed a new contract with employers. Wages are advanced and better work conditions secured.

British Out-of-Work Insurance Act Is Defended In Government Report

London, England, Aug. 18.—The government's Industrial Transference Board denounced as "a calumny" the charge that British workers shirk employment because of the national unemployment insurance.

The board made this statement in connection with its report that 200,000 workers must be taken out of England because of deplorable economic conditions.

The board says: "This calumny has gained some currency both here and overseas.

"A misunderstanding, so absurd as to appear ridiculous, that the whole system of unemployment insurance, as the attitude summed up in the word 'dole,' has created an impression that the unemployed are unemployable, that they could easily find work if they wished, but that they prefer to live in idleness on money derived from the state.

"The misconceptions in this attitude are so obviously absurd to anyone who studies, however cursorily, the industrial history of the last few years that we should not have thought it necessary to refute them had we not been struck by their prevalance in some quarters in the Dominions and by the damage that they cause to our people.

"The unemployment insurance scheme is a contributory scheme to which the workmen of this country contribute, out of their wages, one-third of the total cost. No unemployed person has any benefits under the scheme unless he satisfies stringent conditions—among others, he must show that he is genuinely seeking work.

"Every impartial body that has examined this scheme has found that the allegations of general abuse are wholly without foundation.

"The body of unemployed is not a standing army of vagrants and loafers but a number of genuine industrial workers whose composition is constantly changing."

PHOTO ENGRAVERS WIN

Baltimore, Aug. 16.—Organized photo engravers won improved work conditions after a short strike.